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December 12, 1995

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Mr. William F. Caton  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation in CC Docket 94-97, Phase II  
VEIS Tariff Investigation

Dear Secretary Caton:

On Tuesday, December 12, 1995, representatives of Time Warner Communications ("TWComm") met with Geraldine Matise, Chief of the Tariff Division, Paul D'Ari, Senior Attorney in the Tariff Division, Carol Canteen, Economist of the Tariff Review Branch, and Jim Lichford, Public Utilities Specialist of the Tariff Review Branch. Representing TWComm were Carol Melton, Don Shepheard, Sue Wieske, and John McGrew. Attached is an outline which describes the substance of TWComm's presentation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
John L. McGrew

Enclosure

cc: Geraldine Matise  
Paul D'Ari  
Carol Canteen  
Jim Lichford

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**SWBT Virtual Collocation Tariffs  
Time Warner Communications Meeting with Tariff Division  
December 11, 1995**

Purpose of Meeting

- Explain how the SWBT tariff for VEIS maintenance degrades the quality of TWComm's services.
- Most areas under investigation involve money issues which do not directly affect market entry.
- Maintenance provisions present operational issues which directly impact TWComm's service quality and ability to enter the market.
- Explore alternative procedural approaches to facilitate expeditious action addressing TWComm's operational concerns.

Statement of Issues

- Surveillance on TWComm SONET ring is provided from the AT&T DDM-2000 multiplexer (OC-12). Normally, National Operations Center (NOC) in Denver accesses the SONET ring through the Gateway Network Element (GNE) placed in the TWComm central office. Alarms from any network element within the ring sent to NOC via X.25 port at the GNE.
- SWBT tariff requires an Alarm Collection Device (ACD) at the TWComm CO and each SWBT central office to monitor alarms. Tariff requires that SWBT utilize X.25 port to GNE.
- AT&T equipment currently provides only a single GNE with X.25 access. Thus, only one party can gain such access to the GNE. At least 6 months before dual GNE available and operational.

Operational Impact on Remote Monitoring & Control Functions

- Contrary to SWBT claims, their "remote access arrangement" for interconnector monitoring and control is technically deficient and causes operational degradation in TWComm's quality of service.
- Impact on Provisioning:
  - Automated, real-time inventory management requires access to GNE or must be done on a manual basis.

- Lost functionality results in additional provisioning time per circuit, which will result in consistent failure to meet the average minute-per-circuit quality standard.
- Required time for customer receipt of Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) will be consistently missed.
- Required time for customer receipt of Circuit/Facilities Design Layout Records will be consistently missed.
- Planned implementation of flow-through-provisioning will not be possible.
- Impact on Maintenance:
  - As acknowledged by SWBT, remote access arrangement provides only high-level alarms, i.e., major, minor, critical. Will result in consistent failure to meet notification and restoration standards.
  - Additional time due to lack of alarm information equivalent to the total quality standard for restoral.
    - Manual retrieval of alarms.
    - Lack of alarm correlation and suppression.
  - Access Link to hub ACD would compound trouble isolation by bringing all alarms into a single ACD.
- Bottom Line:
  - **Failure to meet provisioning and maintenance quality standards results in lost business and increased costs from additional workforce and ACD arrangements. Impact approximates \$1.5 million annually.**
  - **Consumers lose benefit of higher quality/lower cost services.**

#### Impact on Network Security

- SWBT admits that GNE access compromises network security.

- Insists on "firewall" to protect against interconnector access to SWBT network or to each other's, but appears unconcerned about its own access to its competitors' networks. Demands that its competitors accept conditions that SWBT will not accept.
- SWBT employees' incentives to breach security are no less than those of interconnectors.

#### SWBT Does not Need to Monitor TWComm's Network to Comply with the Commission's Order

- No other LEC has similar tariff requirements. "Equal standards" mandate begins upon notification by TWComm.
- TWComm superior quality standards neutralized by SWBT control.
- Another example of SWBT's determination to undermine the Commission's expanded interconnection policy by making it as difficult and costly as possible for new entrants to interconnect.

#### Conclusion

- Every day SWBT's tariff is allowed to remain in effect represents a significant loss of revenue to TWComm. and loss of price/quality benefits to consumers.
- Commission should order SWBT to remove ACD and associated requirements from their tariffs as expeditiously as possible.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Thomas Jones do hereby certify that on this 12th day of December, 1995, copies of the foregoing Ex Parte filing by Time Warner Communications Holdings, Inc. were delivered by first class mail, unless otherwise indicated, to the following parties:

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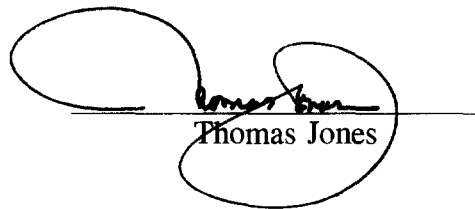
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